

STATUTES OF QUEBEC — HIGHLIGHTS OF 1957

The most significant statutes of legal interest enacted in Quebec during the past year were all amendments to existing law. Perhaps the most controversial will prove to be an amendment to Article 50 CCP whereby the following addition is made after the word "by law provided":

"save in matters declared by law to be of the exclusive competency of such courts, or of any one of the latter, and save in cases where the jurisdiction resulting from this article is excluded by some provision of a general or special law."¹

Another amendment to the Code of Civil Procedure should have beneficial consequences to the wage earning debtor. Article 599 and 697 CCP *et seq.*, the *Lacombe Law*, has been changed with the effect that it reduces to more equitable and realistic proportions, the seizable portion of the salary or wages of debtors and gives more consideration to their family responsibilities. The debtor can deposit the seizable portion of his salary without waiting until a judgment has been rendered or action taken against him. It also contains provisions to avoid costs and abuse of process.²

To avoid unjust delay in the course of a suit for damages resulting from an offence or quasi-offence, Article 1056c has been added to the Civil Code providing that interest shall run from the date at which the action at law was instituted rather than from the date of the judgment awarding the damages.³

The desire of the Legislature to aid those in a lower income bracket is exemplified in a further extension of the *Rent Control Act*⁴ to April 30, 1959, although this now applies only to the cases of houses of which the rent legally in force on November 15, 1957, does not exceed \$100.00 per month.⁵

SYDNEY B. SEDEROFF*
RAYMOND BARAKETT*

¹5-6 Eliz. II 1956-1957 Ch. 15. Le Dain, Gerald E., *The Supervisory Jurisdiction in Quebec* (1957), 35 *Can. Bar Rev.* 788. Le Dain, Gerald E., *The Twilight of Judicial Control* (1952), 1 *McGill L. J.* 1.

²6 Eliz. II 1957-1958. Bill No. 12, January 16, 1958.

³5-6 Eliz. II 1956-1957 Ch. 16.

⁴14-15 Geo. VI Ch. 20.

⁵6 Eliz. II 1957-1958. Bill No. 5, December 4, 1957.

*Of the Board of Editors, *McGill Law Journal*; third year law students.